

Claim 13, line 1, delete "or 11".

Claim 14, line 1, delete "or 11".

Claim 19, line 1, delete "17 or 18,".

Claim 22, lines 1-2, change "at least one of the preceding claims" to

--claim 1--.

Claim 30, lines 1-2, change "at least one of Claims 26 through 29" to

--Claim 26--.

Claim 31, lines 1-2, change "at least one of the preceding claims" to

--Claim 26--.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

On page 28, delete the first line and insert:

--ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE--.

Remarks

This Preliminary Amendment to the U.S. national stage of PCT Application No. PCT/DE99/03018 conforms the specification to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office rules and does not add new matter to the application.

The underlying PCT Application No. PCT/DE99/03018 includes an International Search Report, dated February 21, 2000. The Search Report includes a list of documents that were uncovered in the underlying PCT Application. A copy of the Search Report is included herewith.

Applicants assert that the subject matter of the present application is new, non-obvious, and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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